



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Denali National Park and  
Preserve  
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## **Denali National Park and Preserve News Release**

**Release Date: October 24, 2011**

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### **Public Invited to Participate in Initial Scoping for Rock Creek Bridge Replacement**

Denali Park, Alaska: Denali National Park and Preserve intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment regarding the replacement of Rock Creek Bridge (MP 3.3) on the Denali Park Road. The bridge, which was constructed in the 1950s, is an essential link on the only road into Denali National Park. It currently has a very low weight limit, as the bridge was not designed for the type and quantity of traffic that it now receives. The bridge's 24-foot width, combined with its curved design, often results in westbound RV trailers and semis tracking into oncoming traffic in the eastbound lane. In addition, Federal Highway Administration evaluations have identified several potential structural weaknesses in design and seismic resistance.

A reasonable range of alternatives will be developed for consideration that will be responsive to the issues identified through agency and public involvement. The alternatives currently under consideration include replacing the bridge in its entirety, retrofitting the existing bridge, and replacing the bridge with a culvert and fill material. A new pedestrian crossing and walkway may also be included in the project to enhance pedestrian safety.

The NPS is currently in the scoping phase of this project and invites the public to submit written comments by Friday, November 25, 2011. Comments may be submitted online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>, faxed to (907) 683-9612, emailed to [dena\\_planning@nps.gov](mailto:dena_planning@nps.gov), or mailed to the address below:

Superintendent  
Denali National Park and Preserve  
ATTN: Rock Creek Bridge Replacement  
P.O. Box 9  
Denali Park, AK 99755

The NPS encourages public participation through the National Environmental Policy Act (commonly known as NEPA) process. The public will have two opportunities to formally comment on this project – during this initial project scoping and after the EA is released in December 2011.

For questions about the project please contact Dick Anderson at (907) 644-3536 or [Richard\\_L\\_Anderson@nps.gov](mailto:Richard_L_Anderson@nps.gov).

Additional park information is available on the park website at [www.nps.gov/dena](http://www.nps.gov/dena) or by calling (907) 683-9532 from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm daily. Stay connected with “Denali NPS” on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Flickr, and iTunes – links to these social media sites are available at [www.nps.gov/dena](http://www.nps.gov/dena).

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*About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 395 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).*